

WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1854.

DEFINING POSITIONS.

Among the necessities of modern politicians no one stands out more prominently than that of being obliged once a year at least to "define positions." In the South, among the genuine Democracy, it is only necessary to refer in general terms to the "immortal" resolutions of 1798-'99; or, if something a little fresher is wanted for the rising generation, they need not go back to the Baltimore Platforms of 1844, 1848, and 1852; and by subscribing to these the faithful are recognised and known from Penobscot to Kansas. But in the North most perplexing discrepancies have crept into the creeds. The "Sage" have their own definitions, and so have the "Harbors," each denouncing the heresies of the other, and claiming to be the real "Simon Pure." We have already given our readers some insight into the mysteries of New York politics. The Albany "Argus" furnishes something further for the general enlightenment. It details a few of the grievances which have within the past year oppressed the "National Democrats;" but these we need not transcribe, our sole purpose being to let each branch make itself fairly understood. The Argus of the 13th says:

"We beg that those of our friends in other States who have been disposed to look calmly upon this state of things will now undertake the trouble of examining the relative positions of the National Democracy and the Free-Soil Administration party of New York. They will see in the former a thoroughly united and homogenous body of voters, strong in the rectitude of their cause, harmonious in action, and devoted, without exception, to the support of the principles which have ever avowed through good and through evil repute."

The same paper presents in brief contrast the position of each wing of the party. It invokes public attention in this wise:

"The most heedless observer cannot fail to remark that the exclusive friends of the Administration in this State occupy a position only rendered more doubtful by the recent attempts of this State Convention to define it; that their language upon the question of Territorial sovereignty is no recantation of their Wilcox proviso declarations in former years; that it gives no guarantee of an attachment to correct fundamental principles; that, in the words of an often quoted remark, 'it professes to be for the past and assures us of no indemnity in the future.' He cannot fail to note the admissions of the leading supporters of the custom-house ticket put in nomination at Syracuse, that the Convention was 'compelled' into this half-way and unsatisfactory endorsement of views held sacred by true Democrats every where; that it was 'debauched,' 'forced' into the little of praiseworthy doctrine it avowed. If he will not see these things, or is incapable of measuring them and deciding upon them, then he is hopelessly blind and bi-

goted. In the coming campaign the members of the regular National Democratic organization in this State ask no favor from any quarter. The opportunity they have sought to vindicate themselves, their principles, and their candidates is at hand. The Democratic State ticket has no adversaries to fear but those of the Whig party. The Administration party, with its custom-house ticket, must sink out of the question in the calculation of successful candidates."

Here is a confession, from a quarter which ought to know, that there is yet some vitality in the Whig party of New York, and that it is expected to give a little trouble to somebody about the first week in November.

We are informed that the Post Office is kept open till eight o'clock P. M. The Eastern mail is due at 6:45 P. M., and if the mail arrives before or at eight o'clock it is asserted and the delivery perfected before closing the office. The uncertainty of its arrival, after waiting one hour and a quarter after the period it is due, and the time consumed in ascertaining it and preparing for delivery, even should it arrive in a reasonable time after that hour, has been deemed a sufficient reason for closing the office at eight o'clock. This arrangement, it is believed, would, by having a fixed hour for closing the windows, cause less disappointment to the public than to detain them to an unreasonable hour, with perhaps little prospect of the arrival of the mail. The window clerks are employed from G. A. M. to 8 P. M.

OLD SOLDIERS' WIDOWS.

In answer to inquiries on the subject, we deem it proper to state that the following section in the Army Appropriation bill is the only legislation during the last session of Congress referring to widows' bounty land or pension claims. All circulars, therefore, professing to give information as to Revolutionary claims or prospects, are calculated, if not intended, to deceive:

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the act approved September twenty-eighth, one thousand eight hundred and fifty, entitled "An act granting bounty land to certain officers and soldiers who have been engaged in the military service of the United States," the act approved March twenty-second, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, entitled "An act to make land warrants assignable and for other purposes," and the act approved February third, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, entitled "An act to continue full pay to certain widows and orphans," shall not be so construed as to deprive any widow from the benefits thereunto granted for the services of her husband, though she may have married again; *Provided*, however, That the applicant is a widow at the time of making the claim: *Provided*, Such party shall not receive pension during coverture.

THE HARVEST IN ENGLAND.

Mr. WEBB, Editor of the New York Courier, now on a visit to England, writes as follows of the English harvest:

"I have never before visited the rural districts of England during harvest time, and I have arrived at the conclusion, from all I can learn from the 'oldest inhabitants' that the wheat crop, now being rapidly secured, without the slightest injury from the occasional showers which have fallen in certain districts and slightly retarded the work, is not only the greatest in extent, but the most productive per acre that has ever been produced in the United Kingdom. February, March, and April were the driest months remembered to have occurred in this country, and during this period more acres were sown with wheat, and it was altogether better sown and 'got in,' than on any previous occasion. A good growing season followed, and now there are thousands of acres lying contiguous to each other which will yield upwards of sixty bushels to the acre. This greatly astonished me, but in certain districts this is not an unusual yield here. It is unusual, however, that this great yield should cover so great an extent of country as it does this year. The average yield per acre this year is estimated at thirty-three bushels and upwards for England."

THE GREAT NAVIES OF THE WORLD.—We find in our exchanges a table showing the extent of the first five navies in the world. It purports to come from a pamphlet published by an intelligent naval officer. Here it is:

Vessels of war.	No. of guns.
England.....	677
France.....	328
Russia.....	170
Holland.....	102
United States.....	60

DAMAGE AT FORT PULASKI.—The Savannah Georgian of Wednesday says: "The storm of Friday night did much mischief at Fort Pulaski, on Cockspur Island. Both the north and the south wharf were carried away, as well as the boats, with two or three other houses on the island. All the dykes were levelled with the ground, and all the draw-bridges leading to the fort were swept away." The damage is estimated at \$15,000.

THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

It seems that, as far back as 1816, President MADISON recommended the establishment of a HOME DEPARTMENT, and the recommendation was repeated by Presidents MONROE and ADAMS. President JACKSON, in his first Message, enforced the propriety and necessity of such a Department, or of some provision to relieve the Secretary of State from an undue amount of labor and anomalous duties. THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR was not established until the 3d of March, 1849, Secretary WALKER having urged it with great earnestness while in charge of the Treasury Department.

The best measures are often defeated or postponed, as the most mischievous are often carried, by mere party considerations. In the above case, however, a wise and necessary measure was at length accomplished through the power of party influence.

POLITICS IN OHIO.

We congratulated our readers some days since that the Hon. JOHN L. TAYLOR, of the Chillicothe district, was proposed for a re-nomination to Congress. We now learn that at a meeting of Delegates from the Tenth Congressional district, at Portsmouth, Mr. TAYLOR requested his name not to be presented to the Convention, and the Hon. OSCAR F. MOORE was selected as the candidate. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, in satisfying the just claims of the various portions of this district, the Hon. J. L. TAYLOR has not been put in re-nomination by this Convention, and no misunderstanding may exist in the public mind in reference to the sentiments entertained by this Convention toward that gentleman: Therefore—

"Resolved, That we heartily approve of his recent course in Congress upon the Nebraska bill, and highly appreciate his courteous and assiduous attentions to the wants of his constituency."

At another stage of the proceedings a more cordial approval was passed in the following form:

"Resolved, That this delegation as a body hereby tender to the Hon. JOHN L. TAYLOR their heartfelt approval of his Congressional career while in office, and that they will ever bear toward him that respect and affection due to a worthy Representative from a grateful constituency."

Some of our journals, Democratic as well as Whig, take occasionally very irreverent liberties with the Government journal, the Union. We copy the subjoined examples, whose wit we hope will excuse their freedom:

[WHIG.]

THE WASHINGTON UNION is the most amusing of papers. Punch is no match for it in the department of "solemn fun." In its issue of last Friday it heads its leader thus: "Complete Disappearance of the Northern Whig Party," and in a column of mingled rejoicing and affected lamentation performed the rites of sepulture for the ancient foe of political Democracy. We read the article with some satisfaction, supposing that the Union, having finally disposed of Northern Whiggery, might find time to direct its attention to Northern Democracy and enlighten us upon the causes of the defeat of its party in every Northern State that has lately held an election, and the already well ascertained fact that these defeats are only preparatory to the greater overthrows that are to follow in New York, Pennsylvania, and other States. We wished especially to know how the Whigs were to be held answerable for adverse results in States which have always been Democratic, and whether there had not been considerable fusion of the Democracy with Know-Nothingism and Abolitionism in order to run up anti-Administration majorities which were certainly beyond the reach of Whig achievement. Our expectations have been grievously disappointed. The solemn services with which, on Friday, Northern Whiggery was interred seem to have been insufficient to keep the corpse under ground, and on Saturday it is back again to trouble the Union, who endeavors to exorcise it with "a word to our countrymen."

Another column of declamation on "the Treasonable and Monarchical Purposes of Northern Whiggery." What a wonderful party must be which on Friday makes a "complete disappearance" and on Saturday returns pregnant with "treasonable and monarchical purposes!" [Baltimore American.]

[DEMOCRATIC.]

The appeal of the Washington Union for an agreement of the Democrats of the Empire State upon one ticket is responded to in this wise by the Evening Post:

"These overtures for a fusion of the two divisions of the Democratic party are like proposals of marriage from a prodigal who finds that he has spent all his estate, and now wishes to recruit his finances by taking a wife who is reported to have a little money in the funds. It is a catch-up in which the suitor has no advantage to offer. A triumphant party might not expect to solicit in vain the return of a band of schismatics; but here is a party which has been signally beaten in all recent State elections, and has before it the prospect of equally signal defeats in nearly all the elections held in the States north of the Potomac. Those who ally themselves with it at the present moment have nothing to expect but plenty of dry blows and no pay."

A BENEFICENT MEASURE.

With all its faults, the last session of Congress left some bright spots on its annals. It has been a subject of complaint heretofore that private claims fared badly; but the list published some weeks ago will show that a few days' active work on the private calendar gave Congress a just title to the character of considerate and benevolent rulers.

Among the bills passed none were based on a better foundation of justice and right than that for the benefit of WILLIAM DABY, the veteran geographer. The bill proposes to pay him \$1,500 in full compensation for his labor and materials furnished in surveying and making a map of the Territory of Louisiana, in the years 1812 and 1813.

Mr. DABY was the first to furnish an accurate map of that portion of the territory of the United States lying west of the Mississippi and bordering on the line between the United States and Spain, as fixed by the treaty ceding Louisiana to the United States. The materials for a map thus procured by Mr. Dabry were those used by Melish in his map published in 1816; but Mr. Dabry was never remunerated for his services by Mr. Melish. Mr. Dabry's contributions to our then scanty stock of knowledge, as to the geography of the country referred to, were of great value to the Government of the United States, which availed itself of his labors. If we were to find fault with this measure it would be on account of the smallness of the reward.

COAL.—The weekly coal statements show that the present year has been transported over the Philadelphia and Reading railroad and the Schuylkill canal 428,766 tons more coal than during the same time last year. The amount transported over the Reading railroad this year is 1,154,628 tons; over the Schuylkill canal 582,541; total 1,737,264.

A CHANGE OF PRISON.—A few days since Mr. M. I. LOCKWOOD, the agent, and C. C. CHILDS, the clerk of Sing Sing Prison, in New York, were arrested on a charge of perjury. The facts of the case were these: Mr. Childs had been accused, in the absence of any of the guards or keepers of the prison from sickness, to sign their receipts to the pay roll, and to consider the writing equivalent to a signature by them. In the particular case referred to Mr. Childs signed the name of one of the guards, and Mr. Lockwood, the agent, looking over the roll and presuming it to be right, signed it also, and both swore to it as usual. Mr. Webb, the inspector of the prison, immediately caused them to be arrested on a charge of perjury in making these oaths. They were taken before a justice of the peace, and, after a thorough investigation of the affair, were acquitted, it having been shown that the guard had authorized them to sign his name, and that they had been guided in the course simply by a desire to accommodate the inferior officers.

WESTERN ORTHODOX DEMOCRACY.

The "Free Press" of Detroit is one of the acknowledged orthodox organs of the Democratic party in the West. It exhibits its joy on all occasions at what it considers "a practical victory to the North" in the working of the Nebraska act. And this is the key to the readiness with which many of the Western Democratic meetings fall into an approval of that measure. They very cheerfully endorse "the principle of popular sovereignty," which works out results so adverse to the "spread of slavery." The Press says it always contended that "the inevitable consequence would be to make every Territory hereafter organized FREE." Let it speak for itself, as follows:

"Some of the most prominent Whig papers of the Union which have fanned the abolition flame that has been sweeping over the North have suddenly changed position, and are now raising 'a voice for peace.' Their original objection to the Nebraska Kansas act was that it 'opened a vast territory to the spread of slavery.' This the Democratic press stoutly denied, as our readers well know, and contended that the inevitable consequence of adopting the principle of popular sovereignty in the Territories would be to make every Territory hereafter organized FREE, whether it should lie north or south of the Missouri compromise line. We believe there is at this moment few so blinded by prejudice as to apprehend that either Nebraska or Kansas will be slave territory. The victory, then, of the Democracy is already complete."

The Cleveland "Plaindealer" is another of the regular Democratic organs that plays upon two different keys. It keeps up a fire upon the Abolitionists in one column, and in the other it sounds a soft note for "freedom." Here is one of its latest, and to appreciate its force we must state that elections are soon to come off in each of the States named:

"KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE, that the repeal of the Missouri restriction has opened to freedom territory lying south of the line of 36° 30', large enough to make States equal in size to New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois."

In the Columbus district of Ohio Dr. OLDS and his competitor, Mr. GALLOWAY, have had a discussion, as we learn from the State Journal, on the merits of the Nebraska bill, the Missouri compromise, &c. The latter is a decided anti-slavery man, but he found it hard work to keep ahead of his opponent. Dr. OLDS declared "there was no danger of slavery going into Kansas or Nebraska. The slaveholders don't emigrate, but the Yankees are sharp and more quick, and will always beat the South at this game."

"Foreigners come here with prejudices against slavery, and they go into the Territories opposed to it." In a speech at Circleville, in April, the same gentleman took the ground that "by the laws of population and emigration Kansas must be a free State." "We gain much (said he) by rubbing out the line of 36° 30', because, by so doing, free States may be established south of that line. The repeated compromise was that all south of the line was to be free, and as the Yankees did not believe that Whigs would agree to restore the compromise with this understanding attached to it."

This is the way the South is mocked by its "natural allies" when they get out among their anti-slavery constituents. The slaveholders are too slow, the Yankees will always beat them!

The Burlington (Iowa) Telegraph, in reviewing the causes which led to the defeat of the Democrats in that State, says: "The all-absorbing question of 'interest' was 'Nebraska,' and had it not been for that the Democrats would have carried the State triumphantly, despite the other factions in the field and the other issues raised." We trust that the lesson afforded to politicians by the late elections will not be in vain.

The Journal of Commerce has all along insisted upon the general popularity of the Nebraska bill, and specially maintained that it was growing in favor throughout the country. The result of the Iowa election it refused to accept as evidence of a different state of feeling, and intimated that local causes, not understood except by the elect, had produced an apparent Whig victory, which, it averred, would not avail the opponents of the Administration at all. But the Maine election has rather staggered the Journal. The emphatic condemnation of the measure by the people of New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Iowa, and Vermont did not shake its confidence in the popularity of the repeal of the Missouri compromise, but it cannot explain away the ugly fact that Maine, a State always Democratic, except under the influence of the Harrison excitement, has utterly repudiated the Federal Administration in consequence of its complicity in the Nebraska iniquity.—Buffalo Com. Advertiser.

PAY OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

By the act of the 22d September, 1789, the pay of a member of Congress was fixed at \$6 per day and \$6 for every twenty miles of travel. This was to continue until the 4th of March, 1796, after which it was to be \$7 per day and \$7 for every twenty miles' travel. This act was limited to the 4th of March, 1796. On the 10th of March, 1796, the compensation was fixed at \$6 per day and \$6 for every twenty miles' travel. By the act of the 19th March, 1816, the pay was changed from a daily to an annual compensation; the President pro tem. of the Senate and the Speaker of the House each \$3,000 per annum, and each member \$1,500 per annum. The mileage was not changed. This last act created great excitement in the country, and even arrayed strong opposition to Mr. CLAY, who had supported it. Many members were defeated at the next election in consequence of its passage. It was repealed on the 6th February, 1817, to take effect after the close of the then session of Congress. By the act of the 22d January, 1818, the pay was fixed at \$8 per day and \$8 for every twenty miles' travel; the President pro tem. of the Senate and the Speaker of the House to receive \$8 per day each additional. This is the present pay.

PERPETUAL MOTION.—The discovery of a new perpetual motion is announced at New York. It is on the plan of arms and balls attached to a cylinder, so as to keep the extra weight always on the descending side. It requires no starting, only needs fitting loose and off it goes. The difficulty is to stop it. The Journal of Commerce says:

"After a careful examination we can safely say, in all seriousness, that the propelling power is self-contained and self-adjusting, and gives a sufficiently active force to carry ordinary clock work, and all without any winding up or replenishing."

CORN CROP OF THE WEST.—Advices from the corn crop throughout the West and South are coming in more favorable. In the western portion of Ohio, including the Miami and Scioto bottoms, and all the northwestern part of that State, the corn crop promises well and will yield a full average crop. In the northern portion of Indiana and Illinois the crop is also good, and the same remarks will apply to Michigan, Iowa, Minnesota, and the northern part of Missouri. From the Southern States the advices are very encouraging; so, taking the whole West together, speculations based upon a failure of the corn crop.—Toledo (Ohio) Republican.

THE OHIO RIVER AT LOUISVILLE, (KY.).—The Louisville Journal of the 14th says:

"The present condition of the river presents the most gloomy prospects to the navigator, passenger, shipper, and boat owner. Yesterday there was not a single arrival, save and except the old Vermont, from Vevay, the star that never sets, and the river presented an appearance similar to mid winter, when the boats are all frozen out. Now they are all dried out."

WARREN IN THE INDIAN SEA.—The recent India mail brought intelligence which has led to the belief that two vessels have been lost and nearly eight hundred lives, viz. the brig Hygeia and the ship Lady Nugent. The first was wrecked on the rocks in the Indian Sea, and the loss of three hundred and ninety lives; and the last is supposed to have been dashed to pieces in a terrible monsoon about three weeks after she sailed from Madras, having on board the twenty-fifth Madras Infantry, or upwards of four hundred souls in all.

DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION OF MICHIGAN.

We have already noticed the assemblage of this body at Detroit on the 14th, and its nominations. Gen. CASS arrived in the midst of its proceedings, and all business was suspended to hear him speak. We copy from the "Free Press" a notice of what he said, because that is a free-spoken print, which never disguises its purposes. It says:

"There could not be a more satisfactory exhibition of the temper of the Democracy of Michigan in respect to the doctrine of popular sovereignty, as embodied in the Nebraska-Kansas act, than the manner in which the remarks of Gen. Cass were received by the Democratic Convention on Thursday. He occupied only about three-quarters of an hour, but in that time he so elucidated the great principle of which he is the father, and so explained the provisions of the Nebraska-Kansas act, that a new light seemed to burst upon the whole subject. He made several most happy points, which were responded to with an enthusiasm that told where the popular heart is."

"It is proper to say that Gen. Cass holds himself in readiness to address his fellow-citizens in different parts of the State during the ensuing canvass. Thus many of the people will have an opportunity of hearing him upon interesting topics. He will first spend a few days in Mr. Clarke's Congressional district."

We also copy from the same paper the principal resolution of the body. It will be seen that, after all their boasted frankness, they have not spoken out on the Nebraska question. The "Free Press" gives the PLATFORM and its own comment, which we copy, as follows:

"THE PLATFORM OF THE MICHIGAN DEMOCRACY.—The sentiment of the Democracy of Michigan on national principles, and in reference to the question which has recently agitated the public mind, found utterance through the Democratic State Convention in the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the delegated Democracy of the State of Michigan, embracing its continued support of the principles embodied in the resolutions adopted by the Democratic National Convention which assembled in Baltimore in June, 1852; and that the doctrine of Congressional non-intervention in the domestic legislation of the States and Territories therein embodied harmonizes with the rights of the people, and is the only platform upon which the Democracy of the Union can maintain its nationality and its ascendancy and preserve the Union."

"We have never doubted the soundness of the Michigan Democracy upon the great principle enunciated by Gen. Cass in the Nicholson letter, and which has now become the settled policy of the country. That principle is that 'the doctrine of Congressional non-intervention in the domestic legislation of the States and Territories harmonizes with the true spirit of our institutions, and is the only platform upon which the Democracy of the Union can maintain its nationality and its ascendancy.'"

It should not be forgotten that the doctrines of the Nicholson letter have been repudiated by the Southern Democracy.

We also append some of the resolutions adopted by a meeting of the Democracy of Calhoun county, Michigan. It will be seen that they exhibit no ordinary exultation at the idea that the Nebraska bill opens the whole country south as well as north of 36° 30' to freedom! The "natural allies of the South" are in exceedingly fine spirits on their prospects. Here are their resolutions:

Resolved, That the citizens of a Territory have a right to govern themselves—to adopt their own municipal regulations in accordance with the republican form of government recognized by the Constitution of the United States.

Resolved, That the repeal of the Missouri compromise will in the future be regarded as a great advancement in favor of popular sovereignty.

Resolved, That its repeal opens the whole country south of 36° 30', as well as north of said line, to freedom; that hereafter, in the admission of States, there is to be no compromise dividing line between slavery and freedom; but the whole question whether slavery shall exist or not in the Territory or State is left to the people thereof; they themselves are to be the judges of their own institutions and laws.

Resolved, That, in view of the immigration from the Northern States into Nebraska and Kansas, there is left no reasonable doubt but that slavery will be excluded therefrom, and all the evil forebodings of the fusionists will cease after election.

THE RIOTS AT NEW ORLEANS.

The Telegraphic reports from New Orleans mention the renewal at that place on Friday night of the disreputable riots between the native and Irish residents which had dragged the participants in them in the beginning of the week. What led to this fresh outbreak is not stated. On Tuesday evening further disturbances were prevented, and the spirit of insubordination was supposed to have been entirely suppressed, by the intervention of the military, who took and held possession of the ground which had been the scene of the former conflicts. Several of the ringleaders were arrested, amongst whom is mentioned Dr. JAMES MEIGHAM, who, having in one hand a drawn sabre bearing the inscription of "Liberty or death," and in the other a revolver and a cross, led one division of the mob. He was committed on the charge of murder, and was to have had a preliminary examination on Thursday. It is not improbable that something occurred during this examination to inflame the already excited populace. It does not appear that on Friday night any more lives were lost. Three men and one woman were wounded. The Mayor of the city has since ordered all the grog-shops to be closed at 8 o'clock at night, and enrolled a large number of peaceably-disposed citizens as a special police to assist in maintaining the laws and protecting property. It is to be hoped that order has been permanently restored.

FROM THE TEXAS FRONTIER.

Major NICHOLSON, who arrived at Austin from the frontier on the 1st instant, furnishes the following information:

The selections of lands for the settlement of the Indians have been made. Capt. MARCY is making the surveys. All the locations are made on the waters of the Brazos. The Little and Big Wichita were first explored, and then the main Brazos. The country on the Little Wichita was settled. The scarcity of wood and water on the Big Wichita will prevent settlements from being made. The country west of the Brazos is good. The Brazos and the Big Wichita both flow through an immense field of gypsum, or plaster of Paris. The latter stream and some tributaries of the Brazos have their sources in immense fields of gypsum. The strata of this substance four hundred feet in thickness. Dr. Shumard, of Fort Smith, accompanied the expedition and made extensive geological examinations. During the sojourn of Maj. Nicholson he had interviews with the Southern Camanches, the Wacos, Tuhacanos, Tonies, Caddos, and Andaricos. They are making preparations to settle upon the lands set apart for them. Jose Maria, Chief of the Tonies and Andaricos, has already broken up his camp for that purpose.

INCREASE OF PAUPERS IN ENGLAND.—An unpleasant feature in the social condition of England is an increase during the year which ended July 1, 1854, in the number of paupers. From the period of the repeal of the corn laws to the close of last year there was a continual decrease of pauperism; then the tide began to turn, and the returns for January, 1854, showed, for the first time during four years, an increase in the number of persons receiving parochial relief. The increase then of general paupers was 11,276, and of able-bodied paupers 8,430; it is now, according to the returns for the last half year, 29,657 of the former and 14,461 of the latter. The increase during the year of general pauperism is 5.3 per cent, and of able-bodied pauperism 13.2 per cent. Something must be allowed for the increase of population. The "Economist" thinks full one-third of the increase of pauperism may be attributed to this cause.

The bountiful harvest of this year, as compared with the deficient one of last year, giving more employment to the laboring classes, and cheaper food, furnishes a hope that the next returns will at least not show any further increase of pauperism. The total expenditures for the poor for the year which ended July 1, 1854, was £1,615,978; the corresponding half-year of 1854 showed an expenditure of £1,900,255.

The Hon. SAMUEL CURCH, Chief Justice of Connecticut, died at Newton on Wednesday last, in the 70th year of his age. Judge CURCH during his long life had filled many offices within the gift of his native State, and was highly esteemed by all who knew him.

LATE MEXICAN INTELLIGENCE.

Accounts from the city of Mexico to the 4th instant confirm the report of the defeat and capture of Count BOULBON DE RAOUSSET. The Government paper publishes the official despatches, which are very long. After a vigorous resistance, BOULBON and his companions were completely overpowered, a number of them killed, and the bulk of his force taken prisoners. One hundred and eighty-seven of the men were dispatched to Tepic, there to await the final orders of the Supreme Government. SANTA ANNA, we perceive, has promulgated a very severe decree, in which it is provided that the foreign battalion which revolted at Guaymas shall be condemned to ten years of presidio. BOULBON and his companions, officers and soldiers, are especially excepted from all indulgence, and are sentenced to death. We fear that ere this the foulthirty Count has suffered the penalty of his rashness.

The Mexican papers contain accounts of numerous victories gained by the Government troops over the insurgents. Ciudad Victoria has at length fallen into the hands of the former. On the 25th ultimo the officers under the command of Col. Francisco TAMARIZ took the town by assault, after three days' siege and a most desperate conflict. The besieged fought bravely behind their entrenchments, and, after losing a large number, fled precipitately from the place, leaving their artillery, munitions of war, and a few prisoners. Fifty-five of the Government troops were killed, among whom are five officers. More than a hundred were wounded. Rigorous punishment will doubtless be inflicted on those of the insurgents who have been captured.

On the 16th inst. Castrejon encountered a large body of rebels at Cuernavaca, in the district of Iguala, gave them battle, and defeated them completely. Their leader, Narciso Valle, was killed. Two other chiefs, Gaetan and Maldonado, were severely wounded, and are probably dead. A fourth was taken prisoner. The rebels fled precipitately to the mountains.

[The capture of Victoria by the Government troops is confirmed by the latest news from the Rio Grande. The insurgents state, however, that they fired until their ammunition gave out, and that they abandoned the place, marching off without being molested and forming a junction with the army of insurgents, who, it is said, intended to proceed to Mexico.]

On the 23d a body of some three hundred insurgents were routed by Lieut. Col. Sanchez near Guadalajara. The latter had only forty dragons under his command, but attacked the rebels so vigorously that they gave way, leaving many dead and wounded on the field and abandoning their arms and ammunition.

The village of Temascalapa, having pronounced in favor of Alvarez, has been razed to the ground, and is now a mass of ruins.

The papers teem with accounts of Indian atrocities. The savages made an irruption recently in the municipality of Galeana, (New Leon) killed seven men and six women, burnt alive one man, one woman, and eighteen children, wounded desperately a number of the wretched inhabitants, and carried off fifteen persons of both sexes.

In Durango, Chihuahua, and along the entire frontier they commit the most fearful excesses.

In an engagement which took place recently between a band of highway robbers and a party of Government troops the latter were worsted. The bandits attacked the soldiers in a house in which they had taken refuge, compelled them to surrender, and shot all their officers.

Clothes and provisions were taken from their appearance in the municipality of Tampico Alto.

Mr. ANGEL DE FREYRE, one of the sons of the Liberator, has been appointed Secretary to the Mexican Legation in the United States.—New Orleans Bee.

JUDGE CAMPBELL AND GEN. QUITMAN.

The September number of the American Law Register contains the opinion of Judge CAMPBELL, of the Supreme Court of the United States, on facts disclosed by the Grand Jury for the Eastern District of Louisiana, implicating Gen. John A. Quitman in an organization formed in this country to invade Cuba, and thereby violate the neutrality laws of the United States. The Judge thereupon ordered the General, together with Dr. Saunders and Mr. Thresher, severally to enter into recognizances, with sureties, to observe the laws of the United States in general and the neutrality laws in particular for the space of nine months.

Upon his refusal to comply with this mild requirement Gen. Quitman was committed to the custody of the marshal, and afterwards directed to be imprisoned in the parish jail of New Orleans for nine months. Upon the adjournment of the Court, however, he entered into the required cognizance and was set at liberty, protesting at the same time against the unconstitutionality, illegality, and arbitrary nature of the power which treated him like an ordinary man. But he yielded to the demand, as he affirms, "because he had no appeal from its absolute and irresponsible force, being compelled to do it under duress of imprisonment."

The opinion delivered by Judge Campbell is dispassionate, well argued, strongly supported by authorities, and convincing. He could not be an upright, fearless, and impartial magistrate possibly do otherwise than he did, unless he had been blind to keep the peace for double the time. He would—as he quotes himself from an English Chief Justice—he "would be a poor guardian of the public peace if he could not interfere until an actual outrage had taken place and perhaps fatal consequences ensued." No one not warped by prejudice or corrupted by interest can question the legality and necessity of the order of the Judge; and every just-minded citizen will heartily embrace this opportunity, and all other suitable ones, to manifest in an emphatic manner his resolution to maintain the due administration of the laws, however disagreeable it may be to Generals and great names, and who are very apt to regard them as cowards which they may break through, and only fit and intended to catch smaller game.

[Newark Advertiser.]

THE AIR LINE ROAD.—This is the name given to a projected railroad, to which we have heretofore alluded, to run from a point on the Maryland shore, opposite Aquia Creek, to pass through several counties of Maryland east of Washington, and connect with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad about five miles from Baltimore. The importance of this improvement is urged by the Marlboro' and Fredericksburg papers, and the chief reason given is that it will avoid the navigation of the Potomac in winter, a change of baggage, &c., and that it will greatly benefit the counties through which it is to pass. It may be mentioned that the ice on the Potomac of late years has not offered any very serious obstruction to travel, the steamboat company always having a substantial ice-boat in operation. But we are ever glad to see the facilities for travel multiplied.

THE OYSTER SEASON.—The Providence (R. I.) Journal gives notice that on the 15th of this month the restriction upon the oyster fishing in that region expired, and that oysters can now be legally taken—the prohibition for four months having been the means of giving a great quantity of large and excellent oysters which otherwise would not have been permitted to grow to the size proper for eating. Maryland and Virginia both have oyster laws, calculated to prevent the unnecessary destruction of these favorite bivalves. We have no doubt the oystermen and caterers for the public are on the alert, and do not lie abed these fine mornings.

A NORTH CAROLINA CONVENTION.—A general Convention of the friends of internal improvement is to be held at Salisbury (N. C.) on the second day of November next, the object being to consider and recommend a general system of internal improvements by railroads for the State. The call is signed by sixty-four prominent citizens, among whom we notice the names of the Hon. A. W. VENABLE, E. DEBBERY, and A. DOCKERT, former members of Congress.

There is a strong feeling in favor of the extension of the Central Railroad from Salisbury west to the Tennessee line. It is considered by a meeting lately held in Irrell county that it would be injurious to the interests of North Carolina to connect the western counties with the Central Road at Charlotte, as it would carry a large portion of the trade to Charleston. They favor a road from Beaufort to the Tennessee line, as promotive of the interests of nearly the entire State.

The shipments of copper last year from the Lake Superior country, according to the Lake Superior Journal, were little short of 3,000 of mineral, producing 2,000 of refined copper. On this the increased value of last year over the previous one was not far from \$200,000.

The Rev. Mr. JUDY, an American Missionary at Porto-Prince, writes a letter to the Detroit Christian Herald, in which he says there are not fifty whites in all Dominica besides the priests.